



'We Have Problems Without Your Trash'

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TO THE EDITOR: We applaud your editorial of August 28, airing the political shell game—who gets the garbage? This (as you so aptly pointed out) is a serious problem—a problem that mounts daily. Yet we are not aware of any constructive measures taken by the Hamilton County commissioners to provide ample incinerator capacity—even though the Hamilton County Health Board has issued an edict banning all landfill dump operations in the county after October 31.

The Kenton County Health Board's action to keep other counties from dumping in their county is to their credit. The "friendly neighbor" to the north should be so blessed.

Since early in 1963, our "yard" has been the recipient of garbage refuse and chemical wastes from Hamilton, Clermont and Butler Counties. In fact, on July 8, 6000 gallons of highly toxic chemical, originating from a plant in Addyston, was burned on property owned rural residential, adjacent to hundreds of homes and less than one quarter of a mile from the Union Township Elementary School. The blaze and dense smoke were observed in downtown Cincinnati some 20 miles away.

Since this time, many other chemicals have found their way to this site, and garbage trucks roll in at the rate of 20-40 trucks per day. Operations continue around the clock, seven days a week. On occasions, garbage has been allowed to accumulate, uncovered, until huge piles of hundreds of tons could be observed from the Cincinnati-Dayton Road, exit of Int. 75.

Resulting fires from these accumulations have caused smoke and stench that have lasted for days and permeated homes, churches and the public school. Although burning has been curtailed in recent months, it has not ceased. In fact, smoke originating from a huge garbage fire on June 11-14 caused motorists to slow down on the Cincinnati-Dayton Road on the night of its inception. Although the nights were hot and humid, windows had to be closed by many residents.

More recently, a cyanide residue from a Sharonville plant was buried in several 55 gallon drums without first being neutralized. We have been assured by our health board, however, that this is perfectly safe. This makes me wonder, after being a practicing chemist for 12 years, whether I need a refresher course.

Please, Hamilton County, get on the ball. Take care of your own garbage. We've got our own problems.

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